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be so kind as to send them to the

editorial department, they will be

very much obliged.

TELEPHONE, WORTH 10000.

THE COMMON SENSE OF THE MATTER.

In the League situation the common

sense thing to do, viewed entirely

apart from political and personal con-

siderations, is to declare this country

at peace with Germany.

Inasmuch as we are at peace with

Germany and our armies demobilized,

why not say so and done with it? Is

it worth our while to keep in a tech-

nical state of war with Germany when

doing so makes us ridiculous in the

eyes of the world and clogs the free-

dom of our personal and commercial

intercourse?

There are two resolutions now before

the Senate either of which if passed

and approved by the President would

declare official peace between Germany

and ourselves. They are the Lodge

and the Knox resolutions. The Lodge

resolution declares in few words and

without "entangling" verbosity that

these two countries are at peace; the

other, the Knox resolution, provides

for the approval by the Senate of that

part of the League Covenant which

makes for and declares peace with

Germany.

Either of these moves would do

nothing to ideal. The Lodge resolution

would give us the official peace,

but would leave the conditions of

peace yet to be arranged—rather a

bold procedure but far better than

continuing to be at war with a coun-

try when we are not at war with that

country. The Knox resolution would

avoid all this badness, all the neces-

sity of the diplomatic framing

of peace conditions between Germany

and ourselves.

At this late date, well over a year

since the cessation of hostilities, it is

perhaps better that we accept the

work of the President in the League

Covenant that pertains solely to the

treaty of peace between Germany and

America than to open up the way for

further international discussion, with

its inevitable delays, before getting

down to the actualities of a working

peace basis with Germany. Such de-

lays would be unescapable if we were to

pass the Lodge resolution and it were

to receive the approval of the Presi-

dent, which it probably would not get.

On the whole THE SUN inclines to

the Knox resolution, in the circum-

stances, over the Lodge resolution as

the best way out of a bad situation

which was thrust upon the Senate by

Mr. Wilson's defiant cunning in in-

terfering the peace treaty with his

diabolical League Covenant for dena-

tionizing this country of ours and

making it a dependency of his mon-

strous superstate.

Promised Revival of the Smugglers' Trade.

Plans for the transfer of the Coast

Guard from the jurisdiction of the

Treasury Department to that of the

Navy have been halted for the time

being because the revenue officers

look for a serious attempt to smuggle

wines and liquors along the seacoast

and feel they may need an ocean

patrol to suppress the illicit traffic.

Their forecast of liquor laden ves-

trade living in magnificent isolated mansions with cellars rivaling the catacombs in extent, and, finally, beautiful girls to betray the rum runners to the revenue men or warn the smugglers of impending danger, as their hearts may dictate?

The waters between Cuba and Florida are to be vigilantly watched. There are no rocky islets, no towering cliffs, on the Florida coast, but the keys with their tropical vegetation offer unexcelled settings for smugglers' caves.

Perhaps the Coast Guard may become the most popular of Federal services. Its members must be sure the rescues they pursue are actually smuggling liquor. How are they to identify the contents of the casks they seize without taking a nip?

Where Cotton is Still King.

Cotton was king in the whole United States before the civil war because it was preeminently the American export. We got our foreign cash out of it; we got our foreign credit out of it; we got our foreign commercial standing out of it. Likewise we got a good bit of our international as well as our national politics out of it.

In the last generation cotton was without its crown for the greater part of this country not merely because we had come to harvest bigger and richer crops of other staple commodities but because we had come to export every year billions of dollars of manufactures and other merchandise as against the hundreds of millions of dollars of cotton.

But in the South cotton continued to be king. And now, after nothing else had been able to move various and varied Democratic Senators from their unflinching stand for President Wilson's treaty and League of Nations without the crossing of a "Y" or the dotting of an "I"—when they had been deaf to every other argument, scornful to every other appeal, King Cotton takes them in the ribs, and they take notice.

King Cotton enjoins upon them that formal peace must be declared so that his export business may thrive again, and they agree with him that the covenant no longer is essential to the happiness and welfare of this country with or without the crossing of "Y" or the dotting of "I's."

King Cotton tells them to step lively, and they step.

The covenant has no friends left anywhere.

Food for Starving Austria.

HERBERT HOOVER says the American people can help to feed the starving Austrians and other sufferers of Central Europe without a Congress appropriation or a dollar added to national taxes.

This nation is loaded up with surplus foodstuffs. The Government's Grain Corporation is loaded up with cash capital. Our surplus foodstuffs cannot be disposed of unless foreign consumers take them. But millions of those consumers in Europe cannot pay for them, even to keep body and soul together.

With its large accumulated capital for which it has no other compelling use the Grain Corporation could finance the sale of American surplus breadstuffs on credit to the starving Austrians and others. It could supply the bread; it could supply the dollars. Mr. Hoover urges that the Government let it do so.

No situation could be easier to meet, without the usual slow process of Congress legislation and Executive unwinding of red tape. The money is ready, the food is ready, the ships are ready to do the job without delay. Then let's do it!

Tides of Immigration.

The Commissioner-General of Immigration, Mr. CAMINETTI, notes in his annual report that it is now just a century since the United States began to keep tally of the newcomers to these shores. Considerable immigration followed the Revolution, but it declined during the War of 1812, only to start afresh after the peace of 1815. Twenty thousand arrived in 1817, and probably there would have been more if it had not been for the wretchedness of the ships. These were so crowded that Congress began to look at immigration traffic.

The influx was steady but not great from 1820 to 1845, most of the invaders coming from the United Kingdom. Then came two European tragedies which hastened immigration: famine in Ireland, revolution in Germany. From 1846 to 1854 the human flood increased to 428,000 in 1854. In the latter year the German arrivals were 215,000. That was the end of that great Teutonic rush for a land of freedom. Our own war checked immigration, but in 1866 the Germans came again in a steady stream of about 130,000 a year until after the Franco-Prussian war. Then the American business depression of the '70s kept German immigration down to about 40,000 annually. Also the Germans had a new empire to be interested in and deluded by.

The early '80s saw a new rush for America and happiness. In 1879 the immigration men counted 179,000 arrivals; in 1882, 789,000! The United States was winning back its prosperity. The Scandinavians, Austrians and Italians were just waking up to the American opportunity. This wave lasted about ten years, until the hard times of 1893. About this time the immigration, which had been largely from northern and western Europe, began to shift. Southern and eastern Europe, which furnished only 11 per cent. of the total in 1882, furnished 75 per cent. of it in 1902. The flood-gates were wide open. The flow westward in 1907 was 1,283,349. In 1914, just before the war, the figure was

1,218,480. Last year's immigration was the lowest since 1802.

In the last century more than 30,000,000 Europeans have come to the United States to live. The principal sources of our immigration have been as follows:

United Kingdom (except Ireland) 3,850,000
Ireland 4,450,000
Germany 5,500,000
Italy 4,100,740
Austria-Hungary 4,068,448
Russia 3,311,400
Scandinavia 2,134,414
Other countries 5,184,587

Of the future of our immigration Mr. CAMINETTI is not sure. He does not believe that the people of the recent enemy countries will hesitate about coming on account of national feeling; "such differences are soon forgotten by the immigrant classes." Our immigration from Spain increased after 1898. The Commissioner believes the Germans will keep coming in spite of their losses of 2,000,000 men in the war, but it may be a different class of immigration—"army and navy officers, landowners, small capitalists and others upon whom the burden of changed conditions will fall so heavily that they will resort to emigration for relief." The Austrians are seen to develop with great speed. In this respect, we are told, a strolling snail seems to move twenty-four times faster than a cannon shot.

This wonderful invention is of practical value. The theorist will be able with its use to save much time in determining how certain plants respond to various stimulants. We await with interest the arrival of a chronograph in this country and an account of experiments with it. It is even possible that with the assistance of the device some very slight motion may be detected in Mr. BURLESON's postal system.

The Voice of Peter Justus Fogarty.

The police, the charity organizations and the Merchants Association have on their hands a mystery that has baffled all attempts at solution and which, though it may be with them at this time, becomes more incomprehensible each year just before the holiday season. It is who or what is "Peter Justus Fogarty," sometimes "the Honorable," sometimes "Senator."

So far as is known he is merely a voice over the wire. Greater New York, the official bulletin of the Merchants Association, the members of which have every reason to know the "Hon. Mr. Fogarty," gives us this impression of him:

"This voice, such a hearty, wholesome, kindly sounding voice, calls up a person or firm of known generosity and makes a straight, sensible and withal moving appeal for a fresh air outing for scrubwomen or for a fund to supply coal to the poor of his ward. He claims to represent a national political organization of the highest standing and speaks glibly of the prominent men with whom he is associated. The need is very urgent, he says, and he will send at once for the donation. Thank you."

In 1914 the political organization referred to, after thousands of dollars had been collected in its name, succeeded by a shrewd bit of detective work in arresting and having sentenced to prison a man who used, along with half a dozen other names, that of Peter Justus Fogarty. But this man was no more than fairly behind the bars than the wires were busy with a new plea of the Hon. Mr. Fogarty. It was perhaps twenty years since first the voice was heard over the wires; today it has lost none of its youthful vigor or resonance.

It is certain that it is not the voice of Robert the cat, the late lamented John Barleycorn or, despite the political suggestion in its appeal, the baby whisperings of 1920 political boomlets. It might possibly be the voice of some profiteer whose ghost has come back for more profits. It is an infallible winner of whatever it seeks, as hundreds of charitably inclined New Yorkers willingly acknowledged. And if it could only be captured what a vote getter it would be in the next political campaign.

The Battle of the Book Buyers.

Cable despatches which report the sale in London of Mr. CHARLES MILLER's library and the contest between Mr. HENRY E. HUNTINGTON and Mr. HENRY C. FOLGER for the ownership of the Miller copy of "Venus and Adonis" is describing that work as the "only copy of the earliest edition of SHAKESPEARE's first printed work."

The Miller copy is unique, for it is the only known copy of the fourth edition (1599) of "Venus and Adonis." Rare enough indeed, for of the six editions which appeared before the poet's death in 1616 only eleven copies are known. Equally rare and probably more precious is the sole surviving copy of the first edition, which is in the Bodleian Library at Oxford and which is, so far as known, the first work of SHAKESPEARE to be turned out by a printing press. Published in 1593, when the author was 29, it gave him his first literary reputation as a maker of verse.

Mr. FOLGER already owns one Shakespeare rarity greater than that sold on Tuesday in London. In his possession is what is perhaps the first printed copy of "SHAKESPEARE's plays," the "Titus Andronicus" of 1594. Whether SHAKESPEARE wrote it all or part of it or none of it is a question still disputed, but it was credited to him in his lifetime and none then denied it. A century later GERARD LANGEVIN in his "Lives of English Poets" mentioned its publication in 1594, but it was more than 300 years after it first appeared that a copy turned up. In January, 1905, one was found, not in England but in Lund, Sweden, in the possession of a Swede of Scotch descent, and was at once bought by

Mr. FOLGER for \$2,000. There's a rare book to be proud of.

"The Passionate Pilgrim," bound with the Miller copy of "Venus and Adonis," is interesting not because SHAKESPEARE wrote it but because he didn't, or rather, to be exact, he didn't write much of it. It was first printed in 1599, the same year as the fourth edition of "Venus and Adonis," and of that issue only two copies are known to exist. Of the twenty poems it contains but five are believed to be by SHAKESPEARE. Its literary and historical interest is great, for it makes plain that SHAKESPEARE's reputation at 35 was big enough to make it worth while to steal his name, and it was the first of a series of piracies and forgeries of books and papers by and about the dramatist which went on well into the middle of the last century.

Real Indian Magic.

The distinguished Indian scientist Sir JAGADIS CHANDRA BOSE has accomplished a piece of magic which already had been suggested, in a less and ruder way, by certain motion picture tricks. He makes it possible to apply microscopy to motion, with the result that a plant whose growth is so slow that the hour hand of a clock is an express train by comparison is seen to develop with great speed. In this respect, we are told, a strolling snail seems to move twenty-four times faster than a cannon shot.

This wonderful invention is of practical value. The theorist will be able with its use to save much time in determining how certain plants respond to various stimulants. We await with interest the arrival of a chronograph in this country and an account of experiments with it. It is even possible that with the assistance of the device some very slight motion may be detected in Mr. BURLESON's postal system.

A Plan to Bind Young Men to the Foreign Service.

Representative ROGERS of Massachusetts, who has been active in trying to have better men, better paid, in the diplomatic and consular service, has a plan for a sort of apprenticeship system. It is incorporated in the bill which he introduced in the House on December 10 for the reclassification of the service and its renaming as the "Foreign Service of the United States."

Section 14 of the bill provides that the Secretary of State shall designate, from time to time and after special preliminary examination, "Foreign Service pupils, who shall not be less than 18 years of age nor more than 30 years of age, who shall be required to attend such university as he may prescribe during a period of not less than three years, and who shall follow courses of instruction at such universities as shall be prescribed by him, and who, having successfully passed such examinations as may be prescribed at the conclusion of their course of study, may be recommended for appointment as Foreign Service officers of class nine in the Foreign Service of the United States; and such pupils in the Foreign Service as may be so designated shall be under no expense while following the prescribed courses of study, either for subsistence or tuition, but shall enter into a contract in writing that if appointed Foreign Service officers, class nine, of the United States of America, they will remain in the Foreign Service of the United States during a term of years not less than five from the date of such appointment."

The plan should be alluring to young men. A college education, with a special course in consular work, and then a job at \$2,500 a year with the prospect of reaching the post of Minister of class one at \$15,000—what more can a lad ask unless he is looking for riches; and in that case, of course, he will become a bricklayer, bound to none but his union.

It is fundamental that without food we cannot live—FOUR Assistant Postmaster-General BULLOCK in an official report; House Document No. 484.

A great truth, long awaited, Mr. BULLOCK's chief has taught us, however, how to live without mail.

New Street Safety Device for Dangerous Crossings.

A new invention to protect Detroit pedestrians, which has been placed in position at one of the city's busiest street crossings, consists of four posts, one on each of the corners of the crossing, each surmounted by a gong and a hollow cube, through the slot of which appear the legends "Stop" and "Go." The interior of the cube will be lighted by electricity at night.

The crossing policeman, at his usual station in the center, presses a button a second or two before he blows his whistle for the change of traffic direction. This button, connected by wires to the corner signal posts, rings the gong changing the sign in the cube, thus giving foot traffic the warning before street traffic is released.

Under the usual system people are still standing where the street cars when the vehicles begin to move. This, it is claimed, is at the foot of many of the traffic accidents.

Mr. Wilson's "Appreciation of Patriotic Action."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Of all the mawkish emanations from the White House the telegram to John L. Lewis, acting president of the Miners Union, is the very worst.

THE COMMAND OF THE SEA.

Vice-Admiral Kerr of the Royal Navy on British Naval Strategy.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: As a supplement to Lieutenant-Commander Dewar's letter in THE SUN of December 17 I would like to point out in a few words the object of the command of the sea, as the fundamental reason for a navy is often obscured by shibboleths. The command of the sea is obtained when the enemy's communications are cut absolutely and where one's own communications are unimpeded absolutely.

This state of affairs was reached, as regards water craft, before the battle of Jutland was fought. British strategy was then quite clear: to risk nothing which might alter the perfection of the status quo. The German strategy was also quite clear: to do everything in their power to alter the status quo, as any alteration was for the good of their side.

Lord Jellicoe appreciated this vital point and acted as a great man should in resisting the temptation for personal glory and in putting the good of the allied strategy before his personal gratification. Suppose he had not done so but had fought the German fleet, if he accepted the challenge, and defeated them utterly, what would have been the gain to the Allies' command of the sea? There could be no gain, as the enemy had not a single above water craft on the ocean and the Allies' communications were not being interrupted by any above water enemy vessels.

On the other hand, if Jellicoe had been defeated in a general engagement the enemy's cruisers would have cleared the ocean of the Allies' transports and supply ships and the Germans would have won the war. There was everything to lose and nothing to gain for the Allies in a general naval engagement. Does a wise man gamble with a man who can't pay if he loses?

It may be remembered that cruisers are a far greater menace to commerce than submarines, and that the anti-submarine warfare is an entirely different proposition to the above water command of the sea. Why, then, did Jellicoe fight at all and what was the meaning of his tactics at Jutland?

In the words of Nelson, Jellicoe said "he would not fight unless the enemy gave him an offer too tempting to be resisted," when he would succumb to temptation in order to keep up the morale of his men.

That is why he fought at Jutland. But he would take no undue risk, and that is why (1) he turned away from the enemy in subdivisions when attacked by torpedoes. Note: The fleet in line of battle extended for about seven miles; half of this line was ship and half water. Turned away by subdivisions the line became about 100 yards of ship and all the rest water. About forty torpedoes crossed the line where ships would have been had Jellicoe not turned away. In line of battle half of these would have hit, perhaps more.

(2) Jellicoe did not do what the German wanted him to do; namely, to go after them at night so that the submarines, destroyers and mines which they left in their track would take a heavy toll from the British fleet. Instead of that, he sidestepped and sent in his own flotilla to attack, which it did with great success, and sent his own mine layers to place a mine field in the path he estimated the German fleet would go home by. A British submarine sitting on the bottom to listen for the results of this plan reported eleven explosions in the mine field when the German fleet was passing through it.

The result of Lord Jellicoe's strategy and tactics was that all roads led to the German fleet was so roughly handled that they knew further conclusions were futile. No German cruiser ever again molested the allied communications. No enemy ship ever crossed the ocean and the whole German fleet eventually surrendered to the silent power that held the gate to the ocean ways.

With regard to another question which has been raised, the German system of gun control and ranging certainly made him hit quicker than the British ships; but in every action one thing was very noticeable: Whereas when the British ships were struck their shooting did not deteriorate, when the German ships were hit their shooting went all to pieces. The long service and maritime hereditary skill of the British seamen were clear for all to see.

MARK KERR, Vice-Admiral.

TO PROTECT PEDESTRIANS.

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